

The Senate Higher Education Committee offered the following substitute to HB 372:

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Code Section 20-3-519.5 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
2 eligibility requirements for HOPE grants, so as to revise eligibility for a HOPE grant at a
3 technical college or university institution; to amend Code Section 20-4-11 of the Official
4 Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the powers of the State Board of the Technical
5 College System of Georgia, so as to provide for the designation of community colleges; to
6 provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

SECTION 1.

8 Code Section 20-3-519.5 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to eligibility
9 requirements for HOPE grants, is amended by revising subsection (a) as follows:

10 "(a) To be eligible for a HOPE grant, a student seeking a diploma or certificate at a branch
11 of the Technical College System of Georgia or a unit of the University System of Georgia
12 shall, in addition to meeting the residency requirements set forth in subsection (a) of Code
13 Section 20-3-519.1:

14 (1) Meet achievement standards by earning a cumulative grade point average of at least
15 ~~3.0~~ 2.0 at the end of the quarter or semester in which the student has attended 30 or 60
16 semester hours or 45 or 90 quarter hours of courses towards a diploma or certificate for
17 which the student received HOPE funds pursuant to this part. The grade point average
18 shall be calculated using such 30 semester or 45 quarter hours taken pursuant to this
19 subsection. An otherwise eligible student who attains or regains a cumulative grade point
20 average of at least ~~3.0~~ 2.0 at the end of a quarter or semester in which the student has
21 attempted 30 or 60 semester hours or 45 or 90 quarter hours may qualify or requalify for
22 a HOPE grant; provided, however, that a student who receives a HOPE grant and loses
23 eligibility pursuant to this paragraph is only eligible to regain or requalify for the HOPE
24 grant one time; and
25

26 (2) Meet enrollment standards by being admitted, enrolled, and classified as an
 27 undergraduate student in a matriculated status in a program of study leading to a
 28 certificate or diploma and maintaining satisfactory academic progress in accordance with
 29 the standards and practices used for federal Title IV programs by the institution at which
 30 the student is enrolled."

31 **SECTION 2.**

32 Code Section 20-4-11 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the powers of
 33 the State Board of the Technical College System of Georgia, is amended by revising
 34 paragraph (10) as follows:

35 "(10) Approve a request by a postsecondary technical ~~school~~ college or institution
 36 governed under this chapter that is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the
 37 Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, or any other appropriate accrediting
 38 agency approved by the United States secretary of education, to be named a community
 39 college or technical college upon the approval and granting of ~~occupational~~
 40 ~~degree-granting status~~ associate's degrees by the State Board of the Technical College
 41 System of Georgia ~~and upon receiving accreditation by the Commission on Colleges of~~
 42 ~~the Southern Association of Schools, the Council on Occupational Education, or any~~
 43 ~~other appropriate accrediting agency approved by the United States Secretary of~~
 44 ~~Education.~~ The use of the name community college or technical college shall not alter
 45 the governance of the technical ~~school~~ college or institution as established under this
 46 chapter nor shall it abridge the authority of the Board of Regents of the University
 47 System of Georgia under the Constitution of this state; and"

48 **SECTION 3.**

49 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.